

### REMARKS

Claims 65-140 remain pending in this application after entry of the above amendments. Claims 71, 90, 91, 94, 96, 97, 122 and 125 were amended herein. Claims 133-140 were added herein. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks submitted herein.

Claims 90-97 were objected to because a multiple dependent claim cannot be dependent on another multiple dependent claim. Specifically, claims 90, 96, and 97 depended on claim 79 (among others), which is a multiple dependent claim. Claims 90, 96, and 97 have been amended to remove the dependency to claim 79. The subject matter of claims 90-97, dependent on claim 79 have been presented in new claims 133-140. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Claims 71-73, 79-97, 122, 125 and 130 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 71 and 122 were rejected because they recited cells originating from the blood". Applicant notes that "blood cells" in claim 70 was not rejected. Therefore, claims 71 and 122 were amended to recite "blood cells" in place of "cells originating from the blood".

Claims 91 and 125 were rejected because the recitation of "the two layers" lacked antecedent basis. This phrase has been replaced with "the porous layer and the collagen membrane" in both claims 91 and 125.

Claim 94 was objected to because it lacked a method step. Claim 94 has been amended to add the phrase "adding to at least one of the porous layer and of the collagen membrane living cells selected from the group".

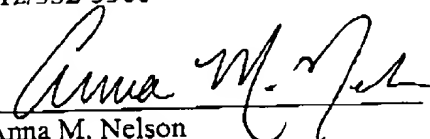
Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks presented herein, it is respectfully submitted that claims 75 to 140 are in condition for allowance and a notification to that effect is honestly solicited. The Examiner is intended to contact the Applicants' representative at the number below, if it would advance prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612/332-5300

Date: August 27, 2003

  
Anna M. Nelson  
Reg. No. 48,935  
AMN